## House Republican Press Release

May 19, 2005

Press Office: 860-240-8700

## Rep. Urban Addresses Seminar On Pawcatuck Border Issues



State Rep. Diana Urban, R-North Stonington, today addressed several local organizations during a seminar on issues affecting the Pawcatuck Borderlands. The seminar was conducted by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, the Nature Conservancy and the Rhode Island Economic Policy Council and held at the Tamarack Lodge in Voluntown, CT.

The Pawcatuck Borderlands comprise more than 136,000 acres, 50,000 of which are secured as open space, in a total of 10 towns in Connecticut and Rhode Island. Approximately 300 acres per year are being developed in this region. Rep. Urban spoke on community demographics and economics and gave her presentation with Michael Rauh from the Washington Trust Company, of Rhode Island.

"We are all aware of the unique quality of life we enjoy in Southeastern Connecticut," said Rep. Urban, who serves as a member of the Legislature's Environment Committee. "The ecosystem that comprises the Borderlands are an integral part of that. We need to work proactively, across state borders, to preserve this treasure. Kudos to the Nature Conservancy and Rhode Island Economic Policy Council for leading the charge on these issues."